(c) Use of natural gas is determined by the need to optimise its use, given the variety of uses to which gas can be put and the alternatives available to gas for such uses.

Setting up a centre for development for electricity Co-operatives

2404. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a centre for development of electricity co-operatives ; and

(b) if so, what is the main purpose of setting up such co-operatives ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Kerosene in West Bengal

2405. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand of kerosene in West Bengal during the period Jan.'89 to June '89 monthwise :

(b) what is the total central allocation and actual supply to the State ; and

(c) what are the reasons for this acute crisis of kerosene in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) to (c) The Kerosene requirements of States and UTs including West Bengal are assessed by allowing suitable growth rate over the allocation made in the corresponding period of the previous year, and allocations are made accordingly. Besides the regular allocation adhoc releases are also given to meet specific situations like floods, drought, shortage of LPG, etc.

2. Allocation of kerosene to West Bengal from January to June, 1989 has been made in accordance with the above policy. The State Government had requested for enhancement of State's allocation. This was considered and keeping in view the availability of product, a quantity of 1000 tonnes each for March and June, 1989 was allocated.

3. The details of the allocation and supplies of SKO made to West Bengal during January to June, 1989 are given below ;—

(Figures in tonnes)

Month	Regular allocation	Adhoc allocation	Total allocation	Releases
Jan. 89	58900	..	58900	59394
Feb. 89	58900	..	58900	59068
March 89	56460	1000	57460	58070
April 89	56460	..	56460	56835
May 89	56460	..	56460	56980
June 89	56460	1000	57460	Not available.